<u>**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**</u>

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claim in the application:

<u>**Listing of Claims**</u>

1.   (Currently Amended)   A processing program edition conferencing method that enables an initial contractor that receives a request to manufacture a sheet metal product <u>from a customer</u>, to virtually examine the manufacturing work for the sheet metal product using ~~their own~~ <u>a</u> computer <u>of the initial contractor</u>, the method comprising:

<u>the initial contractor receiving the request to manufacture the sheet metal product from the customer;</u>

<u>the</u> [[a]] computer of the initial contractor prompting a computer of an outsourcing service center to login to the computer of the initial contractor <u>and to assist the initial contractor in planning of the manufacture of the sheet metal product</u>;

the computer of the outsourcing <u>service</u> center logging <u>into</u> ~~in to~~ the computer of the initial contractor<u>, and assuming complete remote control over the computer of the initial contractor</u>; and

the computer of the outsourcing <u>service</u> center thus logged <u>into</u> ~~in to~~ the computer of the initial contractor, operating the computer of the initial contractor based on instructions related to a processing edition conference from the initial contractor<u>, in a manner to assist the initial contractor in planning the manufacture of the sheet metal product</u>.

2.   (Currently Amended)   The processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 1,

wherein operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference includes creating a control program for [[an]] a NC machine tool for producing the sheet metal product.

3. (Previously Presented) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 1,

wherein operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference includes calculating an estimate of a cost to manufacture the sheet metal product.

4. (Previously Presented) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 1, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the initial contractor.

5. (Previously Presented) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 1, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.

6. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing system that enables an initial contractor that receives a request to manufacture a sheet metal product from a customer, to virtually examine the manufacturing work for the sheet metal product using ~~their~~ the computer of the initial contractor, said system comprising:

a computer of the initial contractor configured to prompt a computer of an outsourcing service center to provide assistance to the initial contractor in planning of the manufacture of the sheet metal product for the customer;

wherein the computer of the initial contractor prompts the computer of the outsourcing service center to login to said computer of the initial contractor and to assist the initial contractor in the planning of the manufacture of the sheet metal product;~~and~~

wherein the computer of the outsourcing service center logs into ~~in to~~ said computer of the initial contractor and assumes complete remote control over the computer of the initial contractor; and

wherein the computer of the outsourcing service center, logged into ~~in to~~ said computer of the initial contractor, operates said computer of the initial contractor based on instructions related to a processing edition conference from said initial contractor, in a manner to assist the initial contractor in planning the manufacture of the sheet metal product.

7. (Previously Presented) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 2,

wherein the operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference includes calculating an estimate of a cost to manufacture the sheet metal product.

8. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 2, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the initial contractor.

9. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 3, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by the operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the initial contractor.

10. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 7, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by the operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the initial contractor.

11. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 2, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.

12. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 3, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by the operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.

13. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 4, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by the operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.

14. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 7, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.

15. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 8, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.

16. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 9, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.

17. (Currently Amended) A processing program edition conferencing method according to claim 10, further comprising:

accumulating data obtained by operation of the computer of the initial contractor in connection with the processing edition conference, in a memory of the computer of the outsourcing service center.